

### A Brother's Love

I read a touching story the other day of two brothers who lived in the land of Russia. Somehow these boys, one of whom was older than the other, were caught in one of the fierce, bitter storms that prevailed in Russia in the winter time. They tried to find their way back to their home, but the great snow-drifts blocked the way, and at last they were frozen to death.

When their bodies were found, it was seen that the elder boy had taken off his coat and wrapped it around the younger one, and had actually taken off his shoes and put them over his brother's feet, thus trying to preserve his brother's life, even at the expense of his own. No words were needed to tell the love which that elder brother bore to his younger brother. His act told the silent story of his affection, and he left behind a memory that will always be sweet in the minds of all who knew him.

Boys and girls, you who have younger brothers and sisters, there is a suggestion here for you. You may show your love for those who are near to you, even in your every day life. God grant that you may never be placed in such a situation as were these two boys of whom I have told you! Yet tho you may never be in such peril as they, you may still show your love for your younger brothers and sisters by trying to help them day by day in their lessons, and by making home as bright and attractive as you possibly can.

Jesus himself is our great Elder Brother, who has done more for us than we can possibly know. Let us take him as our example in doing good to all who are around us.

### Cigarettes

A noble young man was recommended as salesman to a large firm in one of our great cities. He was handsome, intelligent, polite, and seemingly the man for the place. He stood well the examination, and as he stood before this business king he could not fail to see in the man's eye his inspoken opinion, "You are the man I want." One question remains, however, to be asked. "Do you use cigarettes?" "Sometimes," the young man answered. In an instant he saw that approving look vanish, and after hearing these words, "We never employ a cigarette smoker," he returned, a disappointed man to a disappointed mother. Why? Following, perhaps it was popular with "the boys," this little useless yet harmful practice.

Read what Mr. George Maumhoff, superintendent of the Lindell Railway, of St. Louis, says about their use:—

"Under no circumstances will I hire a man who smokes cigarettes. He is as dangerous on the front end of a motor as a man who drinks; in fact, he is more dangerous. His nerves are bound to give way at a critical moment. A motorman needs all his nerve all the time, and a cigarette smoker can't stand the strain. It is a pretty tough

job for men in condition, and even they sometimes get flurried. If I find a car beginning to run badly, and getting irregular for any time, I immediately begin to investigate the man to find out if he smokes cigarettes. Nine times out of ten he does, and then he goes for good!"

## Christian Life

### Be With Us, Lord

O Lord, by thine almighty hand  
Lead thou the people of this land.  
That they thy purpose may fulfill;  
Be with us, Lord, be with us still.

That we may ever walk thy ways,  
With thankful hearts, with grateful praise,  
And heed thy Word and do thy will,  
Be with us, Lord, be with us still.

For strength and help from thee we pray,  
Be thou our guide from day to day;  
To work thy works, oh, give us skill;  
Be with us, Lord, be with us still

—New York Observer.



### TORCH BEARERS

MRS. CLARA W. MILLER

It was the custom of a devout blind man to carry a large lantern on his way homeward from the weekly prayer meeting. The pastor one evening questioned him as to his need of this. The old man quickly answered, "I don't want any one to stumble over me." Pretty good answer,—this. Thus a Christian should always let the light of God's love shine so that no one need stumble over him on his way heavenward.

The need of the world is shining Christians, people with shining faces, glad smiles, hopeful words, beneficent hands. O, fellow Christians, with a song in thy heart and sunshine in thy face a true Shekinah canst thou be wherever thou mayest dwell. We can learn to sing heaven's song's in this world. We can live bright, cheerful lives and thus write the music of sweet songs which will sing in others' hearts. I like to think that Jesus sometimes sets ajar the gates of heaven,

and that a passage of its rapturous music greets our ears.

"I grew in gladness till I found  
My spirits in the golden age."

In our sincere efforts to attain the higher life we are strengthened by the help of God. We are not left of him so long as the rose blossoms beneath our window, so long as the sun shines, and the soft spring rains call forth the violet and the anemone from the sod.

Epictetus said, "You should not wish things as you want them, but you should wish them as they happen." A great philosopher upon being told that it was a great felicity to have whatever we desire, said, "Yes, but it is a much greater to desire nothing but what we have."

We must learn to accept whatever is inevitable as the will of God. Sweetly and quietly we may submit to it, even singing with gladness in our hearts as Paul once did in the Philippian dungeon. "Godliness with contentment is great gain. Having food and raiment let us therewith be content."

"Better to hope, tho the clouds hang low,  
And to keep the eyes still lifted;  
For the sweet blue sky will soon peep thru.  
When the ominous clouds are rifted  
There was never a night without a day,  
Nor an evening without a morning,  
And the darkest hour as the proverb goes,  
Is the hour before the dawning."

If our path were always smooth we would depend too much upon our own sure-footedness, but sin has roughened the way and to keep from falling we put our hands in God's. If the weather were always mild, we would loiter too long in the sunny meads, but at the first howl of the storm we quicken our pace heavenward and wrap around us the warm robe of Christ's righteousness.

A Christian is unable of himself to be a torch bearer, to give light and to save men, and to be a "light that shineth in a dark place;" but it is by God's grace that the dark heart is lighted up. This is the only original source of light that makes a man a luminary in the spiritual world.

"Then gird your loins my brethren dear,  
That distant home discerning,  
Our absent Lord has left us word,  
Let every lamp be burning!"

Ashland, Ohio.

Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year. No man has learned anything rightly until he knows that every day is Doomsday.

To-day is a king in disguise. To-day always looks mean to the thoughtless, in the face of an uniform experience that all good and great and happy actions are made up precisely of these blank to-days. Let us not be so deceived; let us unmask as he passes.—RALPH WALDO EMERSON.